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12/17/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Sun et al.

Serial No.: 09/755,717

Confirmation No.: 5164

Filed: January 5, 2001

For: TANTALUM REMOVAL
DURING CHEMICAL
MECHANICAL
POLISHING

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Group Art Unit: 1765

Examiner: Charlotte A. Brown

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TC 1700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 CFR 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on <u>Dec 11, 2002</u> with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
<u>Dec 11, 2002</u> Date	<u>[Signature]</u> Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 11, 2002

In response to the Office Action dated September 11, 2002 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 11, 2002. Please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no fee is due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/5538/EJS, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-26 as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the cancelled claims in a divisional application.

Please amend claims 27, 53, and 54.